

MEMO

DATE: December 1, 2005

TO: The Community Economic and Human Development Committee (CEHD)

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SUBJECT: CALCOG Growth Policies

During its consideration in November of the 2006 State and Federal Legislative Program, the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee requested information on the growth policies of the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG). In its capacity as a council of governments, SCAG is a member of CALCOG.

In the 2005 state legislative session, CALCOG advocated a growth policy that called for regional plans to identify land sufficient to accommodate a twenty-year supply of housing. The twenty-year supply would be based upon regional transportation plans and regional air plans and would reflect the greater of the number of housing units needed to accommodate increases in employment or increases in population, whichever is greater.

Furthermore, regions would certify that local governments collectively had provided sufficient land for housing in the same manner they make findings for air quality transportation conformity

Local governments responded to the CALCOG growth policy, stating that the concept was feasible if 2) funding is provided to local governments for the infrastructure and services necessary to support affordable housing projects and 2) environmental review of affordable housing projects in areas that have already been planned and designated is reduced and there are funds to provide quality of life enhancements and other environmental mitigation.

Discussion and advancement of this growth policy has been affected by the inclusion in the FY05-06 State Budget of \$5 million for the development of regional blueprint plans. With the development of regional blueprint programs, housing reform legislation stalled in the Legislature. The subject will carry over into the 2006 legislative session, and CALCOG will again be involved.

